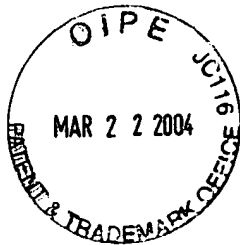


32692

Customer Number

Patent  
Case No.: 58770US002

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: HESTER, JONATHAN F.  
Application No.: 10/726900 Group Art Unit: 1771  
Filed: December 3, 2003 Examiner: Unknown  
Title: MEMBRANE MODULES AND INTEGRATED MEMBRANE CASSETTES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

19 March 2004

Date

Renee A. Wolff

Signed by: Renee A. Wolff

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of any cited foreign patents, non-patent literature, and unpublished US application documents are enclosed. Pursuant to the waiver in the Pre-OG Notice, dated July 11, 2003, copies of US patents and published US patent applications are no longer required and are not enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.  
enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

March 19, 2004

Date

By: Sean J. Edman

Sean J. Edman, Reg. No.: 42,506

Telephone No.: (651) 575-1796

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Use as many sheets as necessary)

Page 1 of 5

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Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)			
	A1	US- 3,472,765	10-14-1969	W.E. Budd et al.	
	A2	US- 3,679,059	07-25-1972	Wyatt et al.	
	A3	US- 3,708,071	01-02-1973	Crowley	
	A4	US- 3,847,657	11-12-1974	Rieber et al.	
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	A21	US- 5,116,506	05-26-1992	Williamson et al.	
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	A26	US- 5,286,279	02-15-1994	Wu	
	A27	US- 5,352,513	10-04-1994	Mrozinski et al.	
	A28	US- 5,437,651	08-01-1995	Todd et al.	

\*Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified)</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)  Page 2 of 5	<b>Application Number</b>	10/726900
	<b>Filing Date</b>	December 3, 2003
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Hester, Jonathan F.
	<b>Art Unit</b>	1771
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
	<b>Attorney Case Number</b>	58770US002

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	A56	US- 2002/0011443	01-31-2002	Komatsu et al.	

<b>*Examiner:</b>	<b>Date Considered:</b>
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		Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)			
	A57	US- 2002/0195390	12-26-2002	Zha et al.	
	A58	US- 2003/0104192	06-05-2003	Hester et al.	
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	A61	10/438,090	Filed 05-14-2003	Hester et al.	

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		Ctry. Code	Number-KindCode (If known)				
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	B2	EP	0 443 642	08-28-1991			
	B3	EP	0 510 328	10-28-1992			
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	B6	EP	0 653 240	05-17-1995			
	B7	EP	0 662 341	07-12-1995			
	B8	EP	1 127 849	10-26-1999			
	B9	EP	1 166 859	01-02-2002			
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	B18	JP	9-120246	05-06-1997			

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	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
	<b>Attorney Case Number</b>	58770US002

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
	C1	Keith Brindle, Tom Stephenson, Michael J. Semmens, "Pilot-Plant Treatment of a High-Strength Brewery Wastewater Using a Membrane-Aeration Bioreactor," Water Environment Research, Volume 71, Number 6, pp. 1197-1204 (Sept./Oct., 1999).
	C2	John T. Cookson, Jr., Bioremediation Engineering: Design and Application, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1995, Chapter 8, pp. 305-358, and Chapter 9, pp. 359-432.
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	C5	Pierre Cote et al., "Bubble-Free Aeration Using Membranes: Process Analysis," Journal WPCF, Vol. 60, Number 11, pp. 1986-1992, Nov. 1988.
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	C7	Keith Brindle et al., "The Application of Membrane Biological Reactors for the Treatment of Wastewaters," Biotechnology and Bioengineering, Vol. 49, pp. 601-610 (1996).
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	C9	D'Agustino et al., "Chemical Mechanisms in C <sub>3</sub> F <sub>8</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> Radiofrequency Discharges", Plasma Chemistry and Plasma Processing, 4, 21-30, 1984.
	C10	Ito et al., "pH-Sensitive Gating by Conformational Change of a Polypeptide Brush Grafted onto a Porous Polymer Membrane", Journal Am.Chem. Soc., 119, 1619-1623 (1997).
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	<b>Art Unit</b>	<b>1771</b>
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
	<b>Attorney Case Number</b>	<b>58770US002</b>

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	C18	Hunt et al., "End-Functionalized Polymers. 1. Synthesis and Characterization of Perfluoroalkyl-Terminated Polymers via Chorosilane Derivatives", Macromolecules, 26, 4854 (1993).
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